Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation Reduces Fees for Licensees

The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation on November 21, 2013, voted to reduce Texas Department of License and Regulation (TDLR) licensing fees, effective January 1, 2014, for 11 TDLR programs and for continuing education providers for TDLR programs. The chart below lists the estimated annual savings and total savings to these licensees for each TDLR program in which fees were cut.

Estimated Savings from TDLR Fee Reductions

TDLR Program	Estimated	Estimated 5-Year
	Annual Savings	Savings*
Auctioneers	\$4,301	\$21,505
Barbers	323,790	1,618,950
Continuing Education	34,450	172,250
Cosmetologists	4,722,735	23,613,675
Electricians	660,890	3,304,450
Legal Service Contract Providers	3,431	17,155
Property Tax Consultants	3,050	15,250
Property Tax Professionals	36,333	181,665
Professional Employer Organizations	66,575	332,875
Temporary Common Workers	13,080	65,400
Used Automotive Parts Recyclers	52,364	261,820
Vehicle Protection Product Warrantors	11,250	56,250
TOTAL	<u>\$5,932,249</u>	<u>\$29,661,245</u>

^{*} Based on current licensee populations and current rates of application and renewal.

Attached are fee cut explanations provided to TDLR licensees and consumers through the TDLR website and by email, Facebook, and Twitter.



On November 21, 2013, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation approved a reduction in the curriculum review fee for the <u>Auctioneers program</u> from \$500 to \$250, a savings of 50%. TDLR estimates this fee reduction will result in a savings for licensees of \$4,301 annually, with an estimated five-year savings of \$21,505.

"These savings result from the fee review we conduct each year, as part of our vision of 'Smaller, Smarter Government'," said TDLR Executive Director William Kuntz. "TDLR license fees must be reasonable and necessary only to cover the costs of administering its programs. With these fee reductions, our licensees and the public will receive the same high level of service but now at a lower cost."

At their November 21st meeting, the Commission lowered fees for more than 400,000 TDLR licensees. TDLR estimates the total savings for all licensees will amount to nearly **\$6** million each year, with an estimated five-year savings of **\$29,661,245**.

"I'm proud that TDLR is leading the way to lower economic barriers for entry into the Texas workforce while helping businesses grow and keep more money in their pockets," said Commission Chairman Mike Arismendez. "With these fee reductions, TDLR licensees will save real money now and for years to come."

For more information about the TDLR Auctioneers program visit the <u>Auctioneers home page</u> or contact TDLR at auctioneers@tdlr.texas.gov or 800-803-9202.



On November 21, 2013, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation approved reductions for initial license, renewal, and other fees related to the <u>Barbering</u> program. TDLR estimates these fee reductions will result in a savings for licensees of \$323,790 annually, with an estimated five-year savings of \$1,618,950.

In addition to reductions in license fees, law and rule book fees are now included in the application and renewal fees for student, individual and establishment licenses, certificates and permits. The Commission also approved rules eliminating the Booth Rental license fee. The Booth Rental license is now issued or renewed at the same time as the barber license, as part of that license.

The following fee changes take effect **Jan. 1, 2014** for initial applications and other fees:

TDLR License Type	Current Fee	Reduced Fee (1/1/14)	Savings
Class A Barber	\$60	\$55	8.3%
Barber Instructor	\$70	\$65	7.1%
Student Permit	\$35 (incl. \$10	\$25	28.5%
	law/rules book)		
Specialty Certificate: Hair Weaving; Hair	\$43	\$30	30.2%
Braiding			
Specialty Instructor: Barber Tech;	\$70	\$65	7.1%
Manicurist; Barber Tech/Manicurist; Barber			
Tech/Hair Weaving; Hair Weaving; Hair			
Braiding			
Booth Rental Permit	\$50	NO FEE	100%
School Original Permit	\$500	\$300	40%
Reciprocity or Endorsement Fee	\$100	\$55	45%
Verification of license, permit, or certificate to other states	\$25	\$15	40%

The following fee changes take effect Feb. 1, 2014 for renewals:

TDLR License Type	Current Fee	Reduced Fee	Savings
		(2/1/14)	
Class A Barber	\$60	\$55	8.3%
Barber Instructor	\$70	\$65	7.1%
Specialty Certificate: Hair Weaving; Hair	\$43	\$30	30.2%
Braiding			
Specialty Instructor: Barber Tech;	\$70	\$65	7.1%
Manicurist; Barber Tech/Manicurist; Barber			
Tech/Hair Weaving; Hair Weaving; Hair			
Braiding			
Booth Rental Permit	\$50	NO FEE	100%

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For more information about the TDLR Barbering program visit the <u>Barbering home page</u> or contact TDLR at <u>CS.Barbers@tdlr.texas.gov</u> or 800-803-9202.

TDLR Fee Cuts for Continuing Education Providers

On November 21, 2013, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation approved a reduction in the application fees for Continuing Education Providers. The initial and renewal application fees were reduced from \$250 to \$200, a savings of 20%. The fee reductions are effective March 1, 2014 for initial applications and April 1, 2014 for renewals. The Commission also changed CE provider registrations so that they are no longer required to register for each occupation. One provider registration covers all TDLR programs. TDLR estimates these fee reductions and changes will result in a savings of \$34,450 annually, with an estimated five-year savings of \$172,250.

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For more information about the TDLR Continuing Education Providers program contact TDLR at CE@tdlr.texas.gov or 800-803-9202.



On November 21, 2013, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation approved reductions for the initial license, renewal, and other fees related to the <u>Cosmetology</u> program. TDLR estimates these fee reductions will result in a savings for licensees of \$4,722,735 annually, with an estimated five-year savings of \$23,613,675.

In addition to reductions in license fees, law and rule book fees are now included in the application and renewal fees for student, individual and establishment licenses, certificates and permits. The booth rental license fee has been eliminated and the booth rental license - which allows licensees to lease space in a beauty, specialty or dual shop to practice cosmetology as an independent contractor - will now be issued at the same time as the cosmetology license type.

The following fee reductions take effect **Jan. 1, 2014** for initial applications and other fees:

License Type	Current Fee	Reduced Fee (2/1/14)	SAVINGS
Operator License	\$53	\$50	5.6%
Specialty License: Esthetician; Manicurist; Esthetician/Manicurist; Eyelash Extension	\$53	\$50	5.6%
Specialty Certificate: Hair Weaving; Hair Braiding; Wig; Shampoo/Conditioning	\$53	\$50	5.6%
Instructor License	\$70	\$60	14.2%
Instructor Specialty License: Esthetician; Manicurist; Esthetician/Manicurist; Eyelash Extension	\$70	\$60	14.2%
Booth Rental License	\$67	NO FEE	100%

License Type	Current Fee	Reduced	SAVINGS
		Fee	
		(1/1/14)	
Operator License	\$53	\$50	5.6%
Specialty License: Esthetician; Manicurist;	\$53	\$50	5.6%
Esthetician/Manicurist; Eyelash Extension			
Specialty Certificate: Hair Weaving; Hair Braiding	\$53	\$50	5.6%
Instructor License	\$70	\$60	14.2%
Instructor Specialty License: Esthetician; Manicurist;	\$70	\$60	14.2%
Esthetician/Manicurist; Eyelash Extension			
Booth Rental License	\$67	NO FEE	100%
New Beauty Culture School	\$500	\$300	40%
Reciprocity or Endorsement Fee	\$100	\$50	50%

The following fee reductions take effect Feb. 1, 2014 for renewals and other fees:

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For more information about the TDLR Cosmetologists program visit the <u>Cosmetologists home</u> page or contact TDLR at <u>CS.Cosmetologists@tdlr.texas.gov</u> or call 800-803-9202.



On November 21, 2013, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation approved a reduction in the license and renewal fees for many license types in the Electricians program. TDLR estimates this fee reduction will result in a savings for licensees of \$660,890 annually, with an estimated five-year savings of \$3,304,450.

The following fee reductions take effect January 1, 2014 for initial applications and February 1, 2014 for renewals:

License Type	Current fee	REDUCED Initial Application (1/1/14) & Renewal Fee (2/1/14)	Savings
Master Electrician	\$50	\$45	10%
Master Sign Electrician	\$50	\$45	10%
Journeyman Electrician	\$35	\$30	14.2%
Journeyman Sign Electrician	\$35	\$30	14.2%
Residential Wireman	\$25	\$20	20%
Maintenance Electrician	\$25	\$20	20%
Electrical Contractor	\$115	\$110	4.3%
Electrical Sign Contractor	\$115	\$110	4.3%
Res. Appliance Installer	\$35	\$30	14.2%
Res. Appliance Installation	\$115	\$110	4.3%
Contractor			
Apprentice Training Program Registration	\$100	\$95	5%

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For more information about the TDLR Electricians program visit the <u>Electricians home page</u> or contact TDLR at <u>Electricians@tdlr.texas.gov</u> or call 800-803-9202.



The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation approved amendments to the <u>For-Profit Legal Service Contracts</u> administrative rules for companies and administrators on November 21, 2013. These amendments reduce fees across-the-board effective January 1, 2014 for initial applications and February 1, 2014 for renewals. **TDLR estimates these fee reductions will save licensees \$3,431 annually, with a five-year total savings of \$17,155**

The following fee reductions take effect January 1, 2014 for initial applications and February 1, 2014 for renewal applications:

Number of Contracts Sold	Current Fee	NEW Fee (Jan. 1,	SAVINGS
		2014 for initial	
		applications, Feb. 1,	
		2014 for renewals)	
0 - 1000	\$500	\$250	50%
1001 - 2500	\$750	\$500	33%
2501 or more	\$1000	\$750	25%
Administrator	\$50	\$25	50%

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For more information about the TDLR Legal Service Contract program visit the <u>Service Contract Providers home page</u> or contact TDLR at <u>CS.Legal.Service.Contracts@tdlr.texas.gov</u> or call 800-803-9202.

TDLR Fee Cuts for Professional Employer Organizations

On November 21, 2013, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation approved a reduction in the initial license and renewal fees for the <u>Professional Employer Organizations</u> <u>program</u> (formerly Staff Leasing Services). TDLR estimates this fee reduction will result in a savings for licensees of \$66,575 annually, with an estimated 5 year savings of \$332,875.

The following fee reductions take effect January 1, 2014 for initial applications and February 1, 2014 for renewals (license fees do not include non-refundable \$150 application fee):

License Type	Current Initial or Renewal License Fee	NEW Initial or Renewal License Fee	Savings
PEO Company with 0 – 249 assigned employees	\$250	\$150	40%
PEO Company with 250 – 749 assigned employees	\$500	\$300	40%
PEO Company with 750 or more assigned employees	\$750	\$550	26.7%
Limited License	\$750	\$150	80%

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For more information about the TDLR Professional Employer Organizations program visit the <u>Professional Employer Organizations home page</u> or contact TDLR at <u>PEO@tdlr.texas.gov</u> or call 800-803-9202.



On November 21, 2013, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation approved amendments to the Registration of Property Tax Consultants rules, **reducing the initial application fee for a property tax consultant by 50%, from \$50 to \$25, effective January 1, 2014.** TDLR estimates this fee reduction will result in a savings for licensees of \$3,050 annually, with an estimated five-year savings of \$15,250.

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For more information about the TDLR Property Tax Consultants program visit the <u>Property Tax Consultants home page</u> or contact TDLR at <u>CS.property.tax.consultants@tdlr.texas.gov</u> or call 800-803-9202.



On November 21, 2013, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation approved a reduction in the initial license and renewal fees for the <u>Property Tax Professionals</u> program. TDLR estimates this fee reduction will result in a savings for licensees of \$36,333 annually, with an estimated five-year savings of \$181,665.

The following fee reductions take effect January 1, 2014 for initial applications:

License Type	Current Initial Application Fee	REDUCED Initial Application Fee (1/1/14)	SAVINGS
Appraiser	\$105	\$100	5%
Collector	\$105	\$100	5%
Assessor/Collector	\$105	\$100	5%

The following fee reductions take effect February 1, 2014 for renewals:

License Type	Current Renewal Fee	REDUCED Renewal Fee (2/1/14)	SAVINGS
Appraiser	\$55	\$45	18%
Collector	\$55	\$45	18%
Assessor/Collector	\$55	\$45	18%

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For more information about the TDLR Property Tax Professionals program visit the <u>Property Tax Professionals home page</u> or contact TDLR at <u>CS.tax.professionals@tdlr.texas.gov</u> or call 800-803-9202.

On November 21, 2013, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation approved amendments to the <u>Temporary Common Worker Employers</u> rule regarding fees, **lowering the application fee for an initial and renewal license by 80%.** TDLR estimates this fee reduction will result in a savings for licensees of \$13,080 annually, with an estimated five-year savings of \$65,400.

These amendments reduce fees effective January 1, 2014 for initial applications and February 1, 2014 for renewals:

Application Type	Current	NEW Fee	Savings
	Fee		
Initial	\$150	\$30 (Jan. 1, 2014)	80%
Renewal	\$150	\$30 (Feb. 1, 2014)	80%

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For more information about the TDLR Temporary Common Workers Employers program visit the Property Tax Professionals visit the <u>Temporary Common Workers Employers home page</u> or contact TDLR at <u>CS.common.workers@tdlr.texas.gov</u> or call 800-803-9202.



On November 21, 2013, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation approved a reduction in the initial license and renewal fees for the Used Automotive Parts Recycler program. TDLR estimates this fee reduction will result in a savings for licensees of \$52,364 annually, with an estimated five-year savings of \$261,820.

The following fee reductions take effect January 1, 2014 for initial applications and February 1, 2014 for renewals:

License Type	Current Initial or Renewal	REDUCED Initial (1/1/14) or Renewal (2/1/14) Fee	SAVINGS
	Fee		
Business Permit	\$120	\$75	37.5%

License Type	Current Initial or Renewal Fee	REDUCED Initial (1/1/14) or Renewal Fee (2/1/14)	SAVINGS
Employee License	\$30	\$25	16.6%

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For more information about the TDLR Used Automotive Parts Recyclers program visit the Used Automotive Parts Recyclers home page or contact TDLR at CS.parts.recycling@tdlr.texas.gov or call 800-803-9202.

On November 21, 2013, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation approved amendments to the <u>Vehicle Protection Product Warrantors</u> rules regarding fees, and lowered the application fees by 28-33% for most registrations. TDLR estimates this fee reduction will result in a savings for licensees of \$11,250 annually, with an estimated five-year savings of \$56,250.

These amendments reduce fees effective January 1, 2014 for initial applications and February 1, 2014 for renewals:

Registration Type	Current	NEW Fee	Savings
	Fee		
Initial	\$350	\$250	28%
Renewal (0-999 warranties)	\$350	\$250	28%
Renewal (1,000-1,999)	\$750	\$500	33%

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For more information about the TDLR Vehicle Protection Product Warrantors program visit the <u>Vehicle Protection Product Warrantors home page</u> or contact TDLR at 800-803-9202.